

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRAGUE 00080 111247Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 /047 W
-----116618 112312Z /75
R 111210Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4477
AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PGOV, VT, CZ
SUBJECT: VATICAN-CZECHOSLOVAKIA AGREEMENT

REF ROME 0508

1. JANUARY 11 PRESS ANNOUNCED THAT GOC AND VATICAN HAD REACHED AGREEMENT ON ADJUSTING DIOCESAN BOUNDARIES TO CONFORM WITH BORDERS OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA, ENDING THE TECHNICAL SUBORDINATION OF SOME SLOVAK DIOCESES TO FOREIGN (I.E. HUNGARIAN) ARCHDIOCESES, AND SAID PAPAL BULL TO THIS EFFECT ISSUED JANUARY 10. SLOVAKIA IS ESTABLISHED AS A SEPARATE PROVINCE WITH ITS SEAT IN TRNAVA. PRESS ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT AGREEMENT REACHED TO NAME FRANTISEK CARDINAL TOMASEK ARCHBISHOP OF PRAGUE.

2. PRESS DID NOT INDICATE EFFECT THIS AGREEMENT WOULD HAVE ON STATUS OF BISHOP GABRIS OF TRNAVA, WHO COINCIDENTALLY WAS ONE OF TWO CATHOLIC OFFICIALS (THE OTHER WAS BISHOP VRANA OF OLOMOUC) IN A DELEGATION THAT CONGRATULATED PRESIDENT HUSAK JANUARY 10 ON HIS 65TH BIRTHDAY.

3. FOR ROME: WE WILL APPRECIATE ANY FURTHER DETAILS CARRIED BY L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO.

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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